

**REGULAR MEETING OF THE COMMON COUNCIL
OF THE CITY OF PLATTSBURGH, NEW YORK
September 10, 2009
5:30 P.M.**

MINUTES

Present: Mayor Donald Kasprzak, Councilors Tim Carpenter (W1), Michael Kelly (W2), George Rabideau (W3), Jim Calnon (W4), Amy Valentine (W5), Chris Jackson (W6)

Absent: Mayor Donald Kasprzak arrived after the Public Comments

1. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING:

RESOLVED: that the Minutes of the regular meeting of the Common Council held on September 3, 2009 are approved and placed on file among the public records of the City Clerk's Office.

By Councilor Carpenter; Seconded by Councilor Valentine
Roll call: Councilors Carpenter, Kelly, Rabideau, Valentine, Jackson
(All voted in the affirmative)

2. PAYROLLS OF VARIOUS DEPARTMENTS:

RESOLVED: That the payrolls of the various Departments of the City of Plattsburgh for the week ending September 9, 2009 in the amount of \$264,800.22 are authorized and allowed and the Mayor and the City Clerk are hereby empowered and directed to sign warrants drawn on the City Chamberlain for the payment thereof.

By Councilor Jackson; Seconded by Councilor Rabideau
Roll call: Councilors Carpenter, Kelly, Rabideau, Valentine, Jackson
(All voted in the affirmative)

3. REPORTS OF CITY OFFICES & COMMITTEE REPORTS:

- Report of Fire and Ambulance Responses for the week of September 3-9, 2009
- Report from the Building Inspector's Office from August 27- September 8, 2009
- Report from the Parking Violations Bureau for August 2009

RESOLVED: That the reports as read are hereby ordered, received and placed on file among the public records of the City Clerk's Office.

By Councilor Carpenter; Seconded by Councilor Valentine
Roll call: Councilors Carpenter, Kelly, Rabideau, Valentine, Jackson
(All voted in the affirmative)

4. CORRESPONDENCE & RECOMMENDATIONS FROM BOARDS: None

5. **AUDIT OF CLAIMS:**

RESOLVED: That the bills approved by the Auditing Committee of the Common Council in the amount of \$471,029.17 are authorized and allowed and the Mayor and City Clerk (where required) are hereby authorized and directed to sign warrants drawn on the City Chamberlain for the payment thereof.

By Councilor Rabideau; Seconded by Councilor Jackson

Roll call: Councilors Carpenter, Kelly, Rabideau, Valentine, Jackson

(All voted in the affirmative)

6. **PERSONS ADDRESSING COUNCIL:**

Nick Masters from the ADK Humane Society said they have spayed and neutered 3814 animals since being open in 1998. This year alone they placed 517 animals and spayed/neuter 406. Master is here to ask for one more street drive. September is vacant and this is the easiest way for them to pick up \$3200 in 6 hours. Masters said this year alone they have had over a hundred cats and they can only hold 50. However they are a no kill shelter so they can't refuse when left. Masters asked for the last Saturday in September which is the 26th.

Sarah Conch from 3 Roosevelt Terrace and part of the Green Committee said they applied for the Adopt a Spot at the kiosk downtown. They would like to update the pamphlets, fliers, and menus and paint the kiosk. Thanked the Council for passing the Adopt a Spot Program.

Michelle Harris from 30 Hamilton Street also part of the Green Committee. Harris said it's an important area to keep clean from litter and debris.

Gerald Carpenter of Johnson Avenue read and submitted a document on fluoride. See attached.

Doug Butdorf of 64 Trafalgar Drive and from the Green Committee wants to update the Council on the Community Garden. Butdorf said it has been challenging year. They had the tomato bite and potato bite as well as leek moth. It also has been a very wet year. Their yields are down and they have also had a Japanese beetle invasion. With all that they also have had a great year for joining the community. They have a solid number for next year and are potentially looking to grow and utilize South Acres Park. This Saturday they are having a Harvest Festival. Butdorf said Mike Brodi and his team and Steve Peters and his team are appreciated for what they have done for the Community Garden. Butdorf announced his support for the Adopt a Spot for the Green Committee. Butdorf said they will update the kiosk and put new information up, new map, ad make it look nice etc. Butdorf also said he heard there was a possibility of discussing solar panels and urges the Council to strongly consider it.

Bill Provost read and submitted a document on fluoride. See attached.

7. **OTHER ITEMS**

A. RESOLVED: In accordance with the request therefore the Common Council approves the Mayor to sign and submit two grant applications to the Department of State Hudson-Fulton-

Champlain Quadricentennial 2009 Eco-docks Environmental Protection Fund Program and review short form SEQR.

By Councilor Carpenter; Second by Councilor Kelly

Discussion: None

Roll call: Councilors Carpenter, Kelly, Rabideau, Calnon, Valentine, Jackson

(All voted in the affirmative)

ACTION TAKEN: Adopted

Follow up Action: None

B. RESOLVED: In accordance with the request therefore the Common Council approves the Mayor to sign an agreement between NYS Office of Community Renewal and the City of Plattsburgh and in compliance with the requirements of this grant and that the Mayor is approved to be the designate as certifying officer for purposes of completing an environmental review.

By Councilor Carpenter; Second by Councilor Jackson

Discussion: None

Roll call: Councilors Carpenter, Kelly, Rabideau, Calnon, Valentine, Jackson

(All voted in the affirmative)

ACTION TAKEN: Adopted

Follow up Action: None

C. RESOLVED: In accordance with the request therefore the Common Council approves the Adopt-A-Spot Program to grant the Plattsburgh Green Committee the Kiosk and surrounding area on Bridge Street.

By Councilor Kelly; Second by Councilor Valentine

Discussion:

Councilor Carpenter told them to get in touch with Ken Primard in the Community Development Office because he has been managing the kiosk.

Roll call: Councilors Carpenter, Kelly, Rabideau, Calnon, Valentine, Jackson

(All voted in the affirmative)

ACTION TAKEN: Adopted

Follow up Action: None

D. RESOLVED: In accordance with the request therefore the Common Council approves the Mayor to sign an Architectural Service Agreement with AES Northeast in an amount not to exceed \$5,445.00 to prepare the plans and specifications for design of the City Police Department Roof Replacement.

By Councilor Calnon; Second by Councilor Valentine

Discussion: None

Roll call: Councilors Carpenter, Kelly, Rabideau, Calnon, Valentine, Jackson

(All voted in the affirmative)

ACTION TAKEN: Adopted

Follow up Action: None

E. RESOLVED: In accordance with the request therefore the Common Council supports the construction of the roof top highway in Clinton County and urges assistance of elected state and federal officials to make it a reality, a resolution will be made part of the minutes of this meeting.

By Councilor Carpenter; Second by Councilor Valentine

Discussion:

Councilor Carpenter stated that the group isn't looking for a financial commitment just support to get some money back up in the area.

Councilor Rabideau hoped that if it goes through it moves traffic from Route 11 to our airport since its doing so well.

Councilor Carpenter said he spoke to the Rooftop Highway people and they are planning on bringing it to Plattsburgh and recognize the economic potential for the airport and the surrounding commercial and industrial developments

Councilor Valentine asked if it was in theory.

Councilor Carpenter said it determines if they get the money. If they do than yes they plan on going from Plattsburgh out to Watertown and hook I 87 with I 81. Also they plan on going up to Champlain in hopes to connect to Maine.

Councilor Valentine asked if Gillibrand was in support and if this is funded by stimulus money. Valentine apologized because she was not around for the initial discussion.

Councilor Carpenter said yes its stimulus money. Now is the time to push hard with all the stimulus money coming out and need our emotional support.

Councilor Kelly said he would like to emotionally support this but he can't. Kelly said the nice man Jason Clark came and said they thought it was going to cost between 1 and 2 billion dollars but is now costing taxpayers between 2 and 4 billion dollars. Kelly doesn't think it will create prosperity and fulfill the spirit of stimulus money with building highways.

Councilor Jackson said he was opposed before because we had applied for stimulus money and hadn't heard back then but now we have received 2 million dollars for the Akey Landfill and 2 million dollars for Imperial so he will be voting in favor of this.

Councilor Carpenter said they are not asking for additional taxes just stimulus money to be sent up to Northern New York to create the highway.

Councilor Kelly said with all do respect somebody has to pay for and its going to be the taxpayers.

Councilor Carpenter said we are going to pay that money whether they spend it in New York or Texas.

Councilor Kelly said he would like to see it come here too but not in the forma of a highway.

Councilor Jackson said if it is going to offer more industrial development because we are the corridor between Montreal and Quebec it would be nice if we could be an economic corridor between Toronto and New York.

Roll call: Councilors Carpenter, Kelly, Rabideau, Calnon, Valentine, Jackson
(Councilors Carpenter, Rabideau, and Jackson voted in the affirmative. Councilors Kelly, Calnon and Valentine voted in the negative.)

Mayor Kasprzak said we all want to support economic development in the North Country and throughout the entire district. This project has studies saying it will create 27,000 jobs. We will have commerce back and forth from Syracuse through our part of the district and believes that will be the case. There will be access to our airport however it is a lot of money. We are going to pay for it whether in Texas, California, Washington DC or Northern New York. Kasprzak doesn't feel comfortable that it will even be built but when it could possibly provide thousands of jobs and have better access to our hospitals and businesses he will support it.

Mayor Kasprzak broke the tie in the affirmative.

ACTION TAKEN: Adopted

Follow up Action: None

F. Motion to waive rule 4 for initial consideration "Request from Public Works to purchase a Camel Sewer Jet Vac Combo from the Town of Plattsburgh for \$40,000 which will be paid out of the Water Sewer Reserve Fund."

By Councilor Rabideau; Second by Councilor Kelly

Roll call: Councilors Carpenter, Kelly, Rabideau, Calnon, Valentine, Jackson

(All voted in the affirmative)

RESOLVED: In accordance with the request therefore the Common Council approves Public Works to purchase a Camel Sewer Jet Vac Combo from the Town of Plattsburgh for \$40,000 which will be paid out of the Water Sewer Reserve Fund.

By Councilor Rabideau; Second by Councilor Carpenter

Discussion: None

Roll call: Councilors Carpenter, Kelly, Rabideau, Calnon, Valentine, Jackson

(All voted in the affirmative)

ACTION TAKEN: Adopted

Follow up Action: None

8. TRAVEL REQUEST

A. RESOLVED: In accordance with the request therefore the Common Council approves Fire Chief Paul Williams to attend the New York State Career Chiefs Meeting in Geneva, NY on September 15, 2009 in a cost not to exceed \$350.00.

By Councilor Calnon; Second by Councilor Carpenter

Discussion: None

Roll call: Councilors Carpenter, Kelly, Rabideau, Calnon, Valentine, Jackson

(All voted in the affirmative)

ACTION TAKEN: Adopted

Follow up Action: None

9. RESOLUTIONS FOR INITIAL CONSIDERATION

1. Request from the City Engineer that the Mayor be authorized to certify the information contained in the 2009 EPF application and be authorized to sign and submit a grant application to the Department of State for the Environmental Protection Fund through Local Waterfront Revitalization Program Year 2009; a resolution will be made part of the minutes of this meeting.
2. Request from Community Development to advertise for bids for building improvements on Project Main St. BIP #9-2008 City at 20 Margaret Street.
3. Request from Public Works to purchase a Camel Sewer Jet Vac Combo from the Town of Plattsburgh for \$40,000 which will be paid out of the Water Sewer Reserve Fund.
(Moved to agenda under "Other Items" letter F)
4. Request from Chief Desmond Racicot to attend the "DEA/HITDA Conference" with Captain Michael Branch in Lake Placid, NY from September 23-24, 2009 at a cost not to exceed \$578.00 which will be paid out of Asset Forfeiture Fund.
5. Request from Chief Desmond Racicot for Sgt. Kevin Riley to attend the "2009 NYSPIN Advisory Committee Meeting" from November 12-13, 2009 at a cost not to exceed \$232.00 which will be paid out of Asset Forfeiture Fund.
6. Request from the Adirondack Humane Society to hold a street drive on September 26th.

10. NEW BUSINESS

Councilor Carpenter announced that the Community Development Office produced walking guides for the City of Plattsburgh. The money was through a grant and the businesses that are printed in the guides.

Mayor Kasprzak said on the back page there are important sponsors and he was pleased with the immediate support by them.

Councilor Carpenter asked if anyone knows the sponsors to please tell them they did a good job.

Councilor Rabideau talked about last night's block parties. Rabideau said it was very informative and helpful.

Councilor Valentine said that President Ettling was walking around as well as Bill Laundry. The Fire Department stopped at all four stops with one of the fire trucks. Valentine was amazed at how engaging the students were. Of the residents who did participate there was positive feed back. Valentine said that she noticed relationships with the college students were improving and that's good news.

Councilor Jackson personally thanked Rick Perry, Paul Williams and Scott Beebie who came out. Also George Rabideau, Amy Valentine, and the Mayor thank you. The students were engaged and wanted to talk to us. It was interested talking to long term resident who said things have gotten better in the past two years.

Mayor Kasprzak said he appreciated Jackson's support in this for taking the lead. There has been positive change. Kasprzak thank MLD for putting up over 120 Quadricentennial banners in two days.

Councilor Kelly said MLD has an opportunity to obtain solar cells for some of the City's buildings and think it's a good idea. Kelly said it doesn't cost the City anything but the ratepayers and IEEP. Kelly said it seems like a good use of that money and wants to give his support.

Mayor Kasprzak said happy 60th birthday to Councilor Calnon.

11. CLOSING PUBLIC COMMENTS

None

Motion to Adjourn by Councilor Jackson; Seconded by Councilor Valentine

Roll call: Councilors Carpenter, Kelly, Rabideau, Calnon, Valentine, Jackson

(All voted in the affirmative)

MEETING ADJOURNED: 6:25 PM